

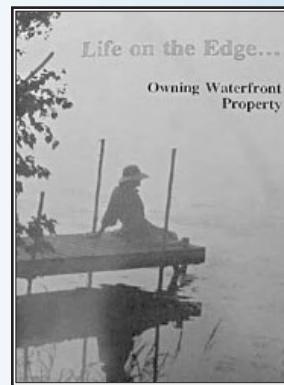
In the case of sediment or algae having a negative impact on your lake, you may want to apply for a Lake Planning Grant. Your lake association can use the grant to prepare a long-term management plan. For more information on Applying for a Lake Planning Grant contact your Self-Help regional coordinator or a UW-Extension lake specialist. The Wisconsin DNR website also provides excellent information on lake grants at [dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/lakes/lkgrants.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/lakes/lkgrants.htm).

If you don't have a lake association, form one. Lake associations are organizations of individuals who own land on or near a lake. Dealing with the broad range of issues and concerns that face our lakes can be overwhelming for one person. Working as an organized group that shares a common goal can make even the most difficult problems easy. For more information on forming a lake association or other ways to organize, please contact: Lake Specialist, UW-Extension, College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54881-3897. Or, visit [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/organizations/](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/organizations/).

If you already part of a lake association, you can share your data by doing a presentation or writing an article for the newsletter.

The best way to help solve your lake's problems is through education. Try planning a lake fair or event. A lake fair is a good way to help lake property owners and users become involved with lake issues. A lake fair is an educational and social event that blends a sense of discovery and entertainment. These events provide an opportunity for participants to get hands-on experience, talk with lake experts in an informal setting, meet lake neighbors, and build relationships. For more information on organizing a lake fair, please contact: Lake Specialist, UW-Extension, College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54881.

Another great opportunity to further your limnology skills is to attend the Lake Leader Institute. The Institute's seminars are designed to stretch the minds by exploring new ideas about lakes management and the human use of lakes. The Institute also seeks to develop networks to share experiences and to encourage participants to learn from each other. The core curriculum is offered every other year. For more information on the Lake Leader Institute, please visit [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/lakeleaders/](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/lakeleaders/).



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE YOUR LAKES, obtain a copy of**

***Life on the Edge...  
Owning Waterfront  
Property.***

**The 22 chapters give an overview of various topics such as living with wildlife, shore savers, or plant control. Copies are \$10 each and can be ordered online at [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/publications/edge/default.asp](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/publications/edge/default.asp) or by calling (715) 346-2116.**



ROBERT L. JOHNSON

*Aquatic weevil feeding on Eurasian water-milfoil.*

(Photo provided with permission by Cornell University  
[www.forestryimages.org](http://www.forestryimages.org).)

### What if My Lake Has Invasive Species?

#### Eurasian Water-milfoil

Early detection of Eurasian water-milfoil growth is critical in stopping the plant from becoming a widespread problem. The best chance to halt these non-native invaders is when they first appear on the scene. Eurasian water-milfoil often appears near boat landings, high use areas (fishing hot spots), and at disturbed sites.

New colonies are best removed before they expand. Hand pulling and removal from the water is a simple and effective control method for small areas. Harvesting, raking, or screening the bottom also works well. Eurasian water-milfoil can be effectively treated with selected chemicals early in the summer before plants flower. A permit is required from the Wisconsin DNR for chemical treatment, mechanical harvesting, or bottom screening. Whole-lake herbicide treatment is not generally permitted because of the potential to disrupt lake ecosystems by eliminating both invasive and beneficial native plants.

For lakes dominated with beds of Eurasian water-milfoil, control efforts must be focused on reducing its spread. Mechanical harvesting can open areas for boating and swimming. Harvesting encourages growth of native plants while removing Eurasian water-milfoil canopies that limit native plant growth.

Biological control of Eurasian water-milfoil is still uncertain. A small aquatic weevil (*Euhrychiopsis lecontei*) is known to feed on Eurasian water-milfoil and actually prefers this plant over other plants. Fortunately, weevils are found in many Wisconsin lakes. To locate one, look in Eurasian water-milfoil stems for signs of damage. The small holes or weak spots in the stems point to weevil damage. These holes, caused by the weevils, allow water to enter the stem, expose the plant to bacterial infection, and decrease the plant's buoyancy. As a result, the plant will drop lower into the water column and cannot spread out on the surface. Over time, weevils may be able to impact populations of Eurasian water-milfoil, but complete eradication is unlikely. Additional research and development is needed before biological control with weevils can be considered an effective management tool.

